

From: [Leos, Valmichael](#)
To: [Fanning, Cynthia](#)
Cc: [Miller, Gary](#); [Walters, Donn](#); [Todd, Brandi](#); [Humphrey, Alan](#)
Subject: Notes on dive photos.
Date: Monday, December 14, 2015 1:19:23 PM

I'll do my best to describe all the photos. Gary Miller, Brandi Todd, or Alan Humphrey can chime in to edit or add info.

IMG_6619.jpg

Dive Master, Alan Humphrey with EPA's Environmental Response Team (ERT) holds up a rebar that will be used by divers to both install Solid Phase Micro-Extraction (SPME) samplers in and along temporary armor cap and also probe the underwater surface to cap to ensure cap integrity above San Jacinto River waste pits.

IMG_6621.jpg

Dive Master, Brandi Todd assists EPA diver, Nick Gannon with EPA's Houston Lab, with putting on protective 'Dry Suit' prior to dive. Much like an OSHA Level A hazardous materials suit which is fully encapsulating, a dry suit, keeps the diver completely isolated (from head to toe) from contact with contaminated waters.

IMG_6633.jpg

Image of warning buoy notifying any boats or barges nearby that a diver is underwater. Work was being conducted along the San Jacinto River near I-10 where there is active boat and barge traffic nearby.

IMG_6644.jpg

Diver Nick Gannon with EPA's Houston Lab, is climbing back into boat for decontamination.

IMG_6649.jpg

Diver Nick Gannon with EPA's Houston Lab, is preparing to use rebar tool underwater probing rock to ensure cap integrity.

IMG_20151210_7.jpg

Diver Valmichael Leos, EPA R6 Superfund, is preparing for a dive to test sampling protocols. On Valmichael's right hand is an anchor buoy used to locate Solid Phase Micro-Extraction (SPME) samplers underwater, and in his left hand is a SPME sampler that will be placed in the armor cap underwater to collect data on the amount of dioxin / furans being released.

Copy of WAR below.

SAN JACINTO RIVER WASTE PITS SUPERFUND SITE, CHANNELVIEW, TX: The EPA Dive Team performed an underwater inspection of the cap to assess how it has fared during the four years since construction. Dive operations were conducted on December 9 and 10, 2015. The EPA divers inspected the armor cap integrity visually and by side scan dual-frequency sonar imaging. Further,



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the divers attempted to collect underwater photographs of the cap, although visibility was very poor. Finally, the EPA divers verified procedures for placement and retrieval of Solid Phase Micro-Extraction (SPME) samplers to passively collect dioxin and furan pollutants in the pore water of the interstitial spaces of the hard armor cover of the cap. The actual sampling event will be conducted at a future date to be determined. (Meyer, x6742)

Sincerely,

Valmichael Leos
Remedial Project Manager
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From: Fanning, Cynthia
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 12:55 PM
To: Leos, Valmichael
Cc: Miller, Garyg; Walters, Donn
Subject: RE: Photos of San Jac dive team for SM?

Val –

These are way cool! Thanks so much for sending!

For accompanying text, I could use this (from the WAR writeup): EPA Dive Team is conducting an underwater survey of the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund site. (link to San Jac site: http://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/dsp_ssppSiteData1.cfm?id=0606611#Status and ERT Dive Team site: <http://www.epa.gov/ert/environmental-response-team-dive-team>).

Is there anything you would add to a description of the photos? Like, what exactly are the divers doing? What's that thingie the guy is holding, and what

does it do? Why are we doing a survey?

Also, the San Jac site doesn't have any information about the dive team. Under "Past Meeting Information," you have: "A community meeting was held on 9/22/2011 ..." Was that really the last meeting y'all have had there?

Cynthia Fanning
Office of External Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
214-665-2142



From: Leos, Valmichael
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2015 11:18 AM
To: Tzhone, Stephen; Fanning, Cynthia
Cc: Miller, Garyg; Walters, Donn; Crossland, Ronnie; Bokun, Lisa; Sanchez, Carlos
Subject: RE: Photos of San Jac dive team for SM?

See attached photos. We have a lot more but these are a few select action shots.

Divers:- Nick Gannon (Houston Lab)
Valmichael Leos (R6 – Superfund)
Brandi Todd (Dive Master)
Bill Luthans (Unit Dive Officer)

Sincerely,

Valmichael Leos
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From: Tzhone, Stephen
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2015 1:30 PM
To: Fanning, Cynthia
Cc: Leos, Valmichael; Miller, Gary; Walters, Donn; Crossland, Ronnie; Bokun, Lisa; Sanchez, Carlos
Subject: RE: Photos of San Jac dive team for SM?

Val will get some good photos for ya!

From: Fanning, Cynthia
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2015 1:07 PM
To: Walters, Donn; Tzhone, Stephen
Cc: Crossland, Ronnie; Bokun, Lisa
Subject: Photos of San Jac dive team for SM?

Y'all –

Is there any way we can get some photos of the EPA Dive Team in action next week? It would make great fodder for our social media pages and a good entry point to the site page.

EPA R6 DIVE TEAM: The EPA R6 Dive Team, with assistance from the ERT Dive Team, will complete phase 1 (underwater cap survey) of the San Jacinto Waste Pits Dive Operation the week of December 7. **(Crossland, x2721)**

Cynthia Fanning
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